

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
June 26, 2015

The City of Clewiston is currently accepting nominations for the Outstanding Community Service Award for 2015. If you know of someone who you feel deserves this honor, please stop by City Hall and pick up a nomination form. We will accept nominations until August 7, 2015.

Dates to Remember:

July 3, 2015 – City offices closed

July 4, 2015 - Fireworks at dark at Sugarland Sports Complex

July 16, 2015 – City Commission Workshop/ Budget Workshop

July 20, 2015 – City Commission Meeting

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- The mobile home located at 528 Commercio Street had been damaged beyond repair in a fire. It has now been removed and the lot cleared.
- A new owner of the two-story dilapidated structure located at 500 South San Pedro Street has decided to demolish the structure. This property has been abandoned since 2011.
- Director Reese had a fire/safety talk to Camp Crayon at the Library on Thursday, June 18th. There were approximately seventy (70) 6 – 8 year olds in attendance which made for a lively discussion.
- This week, we have the 9th common term (HFIAA) used by FEMA to aid understanding flood insurance and flood map changes in our city:
 - On March 21, 2014, President Obama signed the **Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act (HFIAA)** of 2014 into law. This law repeals and modifies certain provisions of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act, which was enacted in 2012, and makes additional program changes to other aspects of the program not covered by that Act. Many provisions of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act remain and are still being implemented. While FEMA actively works to implement the new law, we encourage policyholders to maintain and keep current flood insurance policies. FEMA does NOT recommend cancelling a flood insurance policy. Cancelling flood insurance policies now will leave policyholders unprotected during spring flooding and may cause policyholders to lose important discounts on their rate if they reinstate in the future.

Golf Course Director Rush reports:

- Congratulations and best wishes to Golf Course Mechanic, Ray Fletcher, who will be retiring at the end of June.

- Youth Empowerment Camp from Belle Glade is in its 3rd week with 12 kids.
- Golf Academy at the youth center continues this week, Thursday.
- Clewiston Elks Lodge Scholarship Fund Raiser was Saturday June 20, 2015 with 51 players.
- Seminole In Recovery is this Saturday June 27, 2015 (The golf course is open for regular play all day)
- The next Junior Golf Camp begins July 6, 2015 – July 10, 2015 (For registration call Clewiston Golf Course Golf Pro Shop 863-983-1448).
- Friday evening scrambles continue this Friday June 26, 2015 (For registration call Clewiston Golf Course Golf Shop 863-983-1448).
- Clewiston Ladies Golf Clinic Saturday, June 27, 2015 (Chip and Sip) (To register call Golf Shop at 863-983-1448).
- Clewiston Golf Course is offering Summer Memberships for \$220.00 From April 15, 2015 to September 30, 2015.
- The Golf Course will be open July 4, 2015.
- Thank you to Robbie Castellanos for buying new flags for the golf course.
- Thank you to Morris Ridgill for the boulders to be placed on the golf course.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- Tito Nieves' retirement celebration was a great success. Many thanks to all those who dropped by and joined us for the fun and food. The plan is for Tito to remain a member of our Auxiliary Patrol, so we won't be entirely without his presence around here. Tito left with more than 41 total years of law enforcement experience with 26 of those years of service spent right here with Clewiston PD.
- Officers conducting routine patrol recovered a stolen vehicle earlier this week. The car had been reported stolen a couple weeks prior from a property on East Ventura.
- Code Enforcement remains active. All of the previous pending cases have been revisited. There were many returned/refused service notices and the Code Officers have been physically posting those on the properties. Our meeting with the City Attorney was fruitful, and we are now piping those pending cases through the Magistrate.
- A Golf Tournament fundraiser benefitting the Clewiston Animal Shelter is in the works. The October 31st event is being planned by Commissioner Sherida Ridgill. She is working hard on creating a small committee to take on the project from this point and move it forward.
- Following is a brief synopsis for the week:
 - 1055** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 603** Complaints Investigated
 - 35** Traffic Citations
 - 25** Arrests Made
 - 9** City Ordinance Violations
 - 10** New Code Enforcement Cases
 - 9** Rental Inspections
 - 64** Merchant Escorts
 - 16** Alarm Responses
 - 4** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control: Ground trucks are still scheduled to spray on Fridays. An air application is scheduled for the Friday, July 3rd and ground trucks will be in the area of the fireworks show to spray before the show.
- Street Maintenance: (1) Staff installed the bird bath/ planter in the monument area of the park this week. (2) Staff started building the fluted columns. (3) Staff removed and stored two RXR cross arms and a track switch donated to the museum. These will be stored in the warehouse until the museum board decides where and how they want them displayed. (4) Staff removed another dangerous palm from Royal Palm Ave.
- US27 Rebuild: **Scheduled start on June 15, 2015.** And the dust has begun. Paving crews started cutting and milling Wednesday night.
- Tree Trimming Amnesty Month: This is the last week this program will be offered. If you are considering trimming a tree that may cause damage because of a “tropical Storm, call **983 -1471** and set up an appointment for a review of your request. It’s too late to try and trim once a storm is on top of us. Remember, this program only covers tree trimming not tree removal.
- July 4 show: The City will have their annual 4th of July fireworks display in the Sports Complex. Show time, just after dark. Staff will be off on July 3rd in observance of the holiday.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- Registration for the 2nd session of Summer Camp has been completed. We will take June 29th – July 6th off between sessions and the 2nd session is to begin July 7th – 24th.
- Swimming lesson assessments for the 2nd session will take place at 9:00 a.m. on July 6th at the respective pools for participants registered to take lessons. Swimming lessons will begin on July 7th and all swim lesson participants will be notified by phone of their swim lessons times by staff on Monday, July 6th after 3:00 p.m.
- Work has been completed at the Harlem Gymnasium refurbishing the floors. The gym re-opened on Tuesday, June 23rd. The community play and the adult Men’s Basketball League began Tuesday, June 23rd with games at 7:00, 8:00, and 9:00 p.m.
- We have completed compiling City vs. non-City resident participation numbers in programs either offered by the City or other organizations utilizing City property or facilities, facility usage, rentals and activities. The information garnered has been forwarded to Finance Dept. to put in a spreadsheet.
- Sugarland Sports Complex game fields were treated for invasive weeds this past week; aeration and fertilization should begin next week.
- Minor painting and repairs have begun at the John Boy Auditorium. The entrance portico was pressure washed and is in the process of being painted. The John Boy Auditorium marquee on W.C. Owen is also getting painted and cleaned up with new ballasts, lights and plexiglas panels.
- Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation:
 - Adult Men’s Basketball Leagues at Harlem Gym on Tuesday June 23rd and Thursday June 25th at 7:00, 8:00, and 9:00 p.m.
 - Adult Swim Lessons at James Mason Pool Monday - Friday from 6:30 - 7:30pm.

- Clewiston Recreation and Sugarland Sports Complex will be hosting a college baseball workout and showcase for three (3) local prospects with Coach George Sykes from SW Tennessee State on June 25th on field #1 at 11:00 a.m.
- Summer Camp Golf Academy Clinics at Sugar Festival Field 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. on Thursday June 25th .
- Last day of 1st Session Summer Camp June 26th – Water Day 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Family Reunion at Youth Center on Friday, June 26th 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.
- Birthday Party at Youth Center on Saturday, June 27th 4:00 p.m. - Midnight
- Family Reunion at Youth Center on Sunday, June 28th 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- If you are interested in participating in an adult co-ed volleyball league this summer or youth flag football and AAU Track and Field during the late summer, please contact Andre at 983-1492.
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- The Water/Sewer crew are replacing a section of 2” water line due to a leak on East El Paso at the Rodeo/Fairgrounds. The water fountain in Civic Park was tied into the water line and several water breaks were repaired throughout our service area.
- The Electric crew is continuing work at the Golf Course with the services to the Country Club and the Pro Shop. Flags were installed on US 27 in celebration of July 4th. We are continuing to trim trees from service lines. Staff trimmed a tree out of the feeder on Haiti. We will be removing a tree in the easement behind 779 East Del Monte and relocating two cabbage palms from the same area to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Electric Superintendent, Mike Cox, is working with the State DOT on the traffic lights for the US 27 paving project.
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom of the City’s website page www.clewiston-fl.gov. You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
- **DON’T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION!** Visit our office today.